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ABSTRACT

This book presents the story of the Ojibwe, also called the Anishinaabe, Chippewa, or Ojibway people, who live in southern Canada and the north-central United States. Written for young people, the Ojibwe story combines history with cultural stories and an introduction to the Good Path--the values that form Ojibwe philosophy. Each chapter covers one of the nine values of the Good Path and includes related cultural/historical stories that reinforce that value: (1) honor the Creator (creation stories); (2) honor elders (stories of the ancestral Lenni Lenape and their migrations); (3) honor women (women's tasks and women's roles as leaders, teachers, and healers); (4) honor our elder brothers (the plant and animal beings, the Ojibwe view of the natural world, and the Seven Fires prophesies); (5) be peaceful (the westward migration and relations between early Native groups); (6) be kind to everyone (Ojibwe settlement on Madeline Island, Michigan, daily life there, and the view of life as a journey having "four hills"); (7) be moderate in thoughts, words, and deeds (stories of early contact with Europeans, the fur trade, and loss of Ojibwe land); (8) be courageous (sufferings from war and disease, removal of Indian children to government boarding schools, banning of spiritual practices, and loss of harmony and balance); and (9) keep our promises (the rebirth of Ojibwe culture and language in the Seventh Generation). At the end of each chapter are discussion questions and suggestions for Good Path projects. (Contains references in chapter notes and many photographs and illustrations.) (SV)

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